<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (currently amended) An electronic data storage medium adapted to be accessed by a data terminal, said electronic data storage medium comprising:

a <u>non-volatile</u> memory device for storing a data file and fingerprint reference data obtained by scanning a fingerprint of a person authorized to access the data file;

a fingerprint sensor adapted to scan a fingerprint of a user of said electronic data storage medium and to generate fingerprint scan data;

an input/output interface circuit activable so as to establish communication with the data terminal; ~~and~~

a processing unit connected to said <u>non-volatile</u> memory device, said fingerprint sensor and said input/output interface circuit,

<u>means for controlling</u> said processing unit ~~being operable selectively~~ in a programming mode, where said processing unit activates said input/output interface circuit to receive the data file and the fingerprint reference data from the data terminal, and to store the data file and the fingerprint reference data in said <u>non-volatile</u> memory device, and

<u>means for controlling said processing unit in</u> a data retrieving mode, <u>which is performed subsequent to the programming mode,</u> where said processing unit receives the fingerprint scan data from said fingerprint sensor, compares the fingerprint scan data with the fingerprint reference data in said <u>non-volatile</u> memory device to verify if the user of said electronic data storage medium is authorized to access the data file stored in said <u>non-volatile</u> memory device, and activates said input/output

interface circuit to transmit the data file to the data
terminal upon verifying that the user of said electronic
data storage medium is authorized to access the data file
stored in said non-volatile memory device.

2.   (currently amended) The electronic data storage
medium of Claim 1, further comprising a card body on which
said non-volatile memory device, said fingerprint sensor,
said input/output interface circuit and said processing
unit are mounted.

3.   (original) The electronic data storage medium of
Claim 2, further comprising a power source mounted on said
card body and connected to said processing unit for
supplying electrical power thereto.

4.   (currently amended) The electronic data storage
medium of Claim 1, wherein said non-volatile memory device
is a flash memory device.

5.   (currently amended) The electronic data storage
medium of Claim 1, wherein said processing unit stores the
data file and the fingerprint reference data in said non-
volatile memory device in a compressed format.

6.   (original) The electronic data storage medium of
Claim 1, further comprising a function key set connected to
said processing unit and operable so as to initiate
operation of said processing unit in a selected one of the
programming and data retrieving modes.

7.   (currently amended) The electronic data storage medium of Claim 1, wherein said processing unit is further operable selectively in a data resetting mode, where the data file and the fingerprint reference data are erased from said non-volatile memory device.

8.   (original) The electronic data storage medium of Claim of 7, further comprising a function key set connected to said processing unit and operable so as to initiate operation of said processing unit in a selected one of the programming, data retrieving and data resetting modes.

9.   (original) The electronic data storage medium of Claim 8, wherein said memory device further stores a reference password therein, said function key set being operable to provide an input password to said processing unit, said processing unit comparing the input password with the reference password and initiating operation in the data resetting mode upon verifying that the input password corresponds with the reference password.

10.   (currently amended) The electronic data storage medium of Claim 7, wherein said processing unit automatically initiates operation in the data resetting mode upon detecting that a preset time period has elapsed since storage of the data file and the fingerprint reference data in said non-volatile memory device.

11.   (original) The electronic data storage medium of Claim 1, further comprising a display unit connected to and controlled by said processing unit for showing the data file exchanged with the data terminal thereon.

12.   (New) An electronic data storage medium adapted
to be accessed by a data terminal, said electronic data
storage medium comprising:

a non-volatile memory device for storing a data file
and fingerprint reference data;

a fingerprint sensor adapted to scan a fingerprint of
a user of said electronic data storage medium and to
generate fingerprint scan data;

an input/output interface circuit for establishing
communication with the data terminal;

a processing unit coupled to said non-volatile memory
device, said fingertip sensor and said input/output
interface circuit;

a function key set connected to said processing unit
and operably arranged such that a user is enabled to
initiate operation of said electronic data storage medium
in a selected one of a programming mode and a data
retrieving mode by manipulation of the function key set;

means for controlling said processing unit when the
electronic data storage medium is in the programming mode
such that the processing unit writes at least one of the
data file and the fingerprint reference data into said non-
volatile memory device; and

means for controlling said processing unit when the
electronic data storage medium is in the data retrieving
mode such that the processing unit compares the fingerprint
scan data entered through said fingerprint sensor with the
fingerprint reference data stored in said non-volatile
memory device, and transmits the data file through said
input/output interface circuit to the data terminal only

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when the fingerprint scan data matches the fingerprint
reference data.

    13.   (new) The electronic data storage medium of Claim
12,

    wherein said non-volatile memory device further
comprises means for storing a reference password therein,
and

    wherein said function key set includes means for
transmitting an input password manually entered by a user
to said processing unit,

    and wherein the electronic data storage medium further
comprises means for controlling said processing unit to
compare the input password with the reference password and
initiating operation in the data resetting mode upon
verifying that the input password corresponds with the
reference password.

    14.   (New) An electronic data storage medium adapted
to be accessed by a data terminal, said electronic data
storage medium comprising:

    a non-volatile memory device for storing a data file
and reference data possessed by a person authorized to
access the data file;

    security means for entering the security data into the
electronic data storage medium;

    an input/output interface circuit for establishing
communication with the data terminal;

    a processing unit coupled to said non-volatile memory
device, said security means and said input/output interface
circuit;

   means for manually switching the electronic data
storage medium between a programming mode and a data
retrieving mode;

   means for controlling said processing unit when the
electronic data storage medium is in the programming mode
such that the processing unit transfers at least one of the
data file and the reference data from the input/output
interface circuit into said non-volatile memory device, and

   means for controlling said processing unit when the
electronic data storage medium is in the data retrieving
mode such that the processing unit compares the security
data entered through said security means with the reference
data stored in said non-volatile memory device, and
activates said input/output interface circuit to transmit
the data file to the data terminal only when the security
data matches the reference data.